

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 10, 19 and 25 are cancelled.

Claims 3, 6-8, 11-13, 15-17, 20 and 26 are amended. Claims 27-34 are added. No new matter is added.

Claims 3, 4, 6-8, 11-18, 20-24 and 26-34 remain in the case for consideration.

Applicant requests consideration and allowance of the claims in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

The title of the invention is amended as suggested by the Examiner to make the title descriptive.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 10 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,882,221 to Nguyen et al ("Nguyen"). Claim 25 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nguyen or U.S. Patent No. 6,025,732 to Foo et al.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 10, 19 and 25 are cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nguyen.

Claims 12, 13, 15 and 16 are amended to depend from allowable claim 11. These claims as amended are believed to be allowable and allowance is respectfully requested.

Claim 14 depends from claim 13, and for at least the same reasons, this claim is believed to be allowable and allowance is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3, 4, 6-8, 11, 17, 18, 20-24 and 26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 3 is amended to include the limitations of claims 1 and 2. Claim 4 depends from allowable claim 3. Claims 6-8 are amended to depend from allowable claim 3.

Claim 11 is amended to include the limitations of claim 9. Claims 12, 13 and 15-17 are amended to depend from allowable claim 11. Claim 14 depends from amended claim 13. Claim 18 depends from amended claim 17.

Claim 20 is amended to include the limitations of claim 9. Claims 21-24 depend from allowable claim 20.

Claim 26 is amended to include the limitations of claim 25.

Thus claims 3, 4, 6-8, 11-18, 20-24 and 26 are believed to be allowable and allowance is respectfully requested.

New claim 27 is a copy of original claim 6 rewritten in independent form including the limitations of claims 1 and 2. New claims 28 and 29 depend from allowable claim 27.

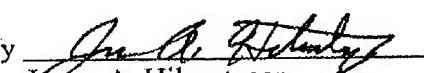
New claim 30 is a copy of original claim 17 rewritten in independent form including the limitations of claim 9. New claim 31 depends from allowable claim 30. New claims 32-34 incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 6-8 and depend from allowable claim 31.

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 3, 4, 6-8, 11-18, 20-24, and 26-34 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

Customer No. 20575

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.

By 
James A. Hilsenteger
Reg. No. 53,023

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.
1030 SW Morrison Street
Portland, OR 97205
503-222-3613